

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD JA
SUBJECT: TV NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 093306

1. JAPANESE PRESS APRIL 27 CARRIES STORY WHICH REFLECTS
JAPANESE REACTION TO DEFINITIONAL PROBLEM OF "SUBSTANTIALLY
COMPLETED TELEVISION SETS." FULL TEXT FOLLOWS:

2. THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY HAS
BEGUN A STUDY ON JAPANESE HOME ELECTRIC APPLIANCE PRODUCERS'
PLANS TO EMBARK ON COLOR TELEVISION SET PRODUCTION IN THE
UNITED STATES, MINISTRY SOURCES SAID TUESDAY.

"THE SOURCES SAID THE SURVEY IS BEING CONDUCTED AS PART OF
EFFORTS TO EXPEDITE THE CURRENT JAPAN-U.S. NEGOTIATIONS ON
RESTRICTING JAPAN'S COLOR TELEVISION SET EXPORTS TO THE
UNITED STATES UNDER THE VOLUNTARY SHIPMENT CONTROL PROGRAM.

"IN THE SURVEY, THE SOURCES SAID, THE MINISTRY WILL STUDY
11 MAJOR ELECTRIC APPLIANCE MAKERS' PLANS FOR COLOR TV
SET PRODUCTION, INCLUDING SUCH ITEMS AS THEIR PLANS TO HIRE
AMERICAN EMPLOYEES IN CARRYING OUT THE LOCAL PRODUCTION
PROJECTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

"THE SURVEY HAS BEEN NECESSITATED BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES
HAS DEMANDED THAT NOT ONLY COMPLETED TV SETS BUT ALSO
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SEMIFINISHED SETS SHIPPED TO THE UNITED STATES FOR FINAL
ASSEMBLY IN THAT COUNTRY BE SUBJECTED TO THE PROPOSED
VOLUNTARY SHIPMENT CONTROL PROGRAM, THE SOURCES SAID.

"THE U.S. DEMAND WAS MADE BY ROBERT STRAUSS, PRESIDENT
JIMMY CARTER'S SPECIAL TRADE NEGOTIATOR, WHEN HE MET WITH
MINORU MASUDA, JAPANESE VICE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL
TRADE AND INDUSTRY, IN WASHINGTON RECENTLY TO DISCUSS

THE PROBLEM.

"STRAUSS IS BELIEVED TO HAVE MADE THE DEMAND BECAUSE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FEARS THAT, IF THE VOLUNTARY SHIPMENT CONTROL PROGRAM COVERS ONLY COMPLETE SET SHIPMENTS, JAPANESE APPLIANCE MANUFACTURERS MAY STEP UP EXPORTS OF SEMIFINISHED SETS TO THE UNITED STATES FOR SALES AFTER COMPLETING THEM IN THAT COUNTRY, THE SOURCES SAID.

"THE UNITED STATES APPARENTLY CONSIDERS THIS UNDESIRABLE BECAUSE LOCAL COLOR TV SET PRODUCTION IN THIS FORM HARDLY CREATES EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR U.S. WORKERS AND PROCUREMENT OF U.S.-MADE TV SET PARTS IS LIMITED, THE SOURCES SAID.

"THEREFORE, THE SOURCES SAID, IF THE SURVEY FINDS THE 11 APPLIANCE MAKERS' TV SET PRODUCTION PLANS IN THE UNITED STATES DO NOT DULY PAY ATTENTION TO THESE PROBLEMS, MITI WILL EXTEND GUIDANCE TO THE APPLIANCE MAKERS TO INCORPORATE MEASURES TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR U.S. WORKERS AND EXPAND PROCUREMENT OF U.S.-MADE TV SETS.

"IT WILL ALSO ADVISE THE MANUFACTURERS TO CUT THE VOLUME OF EXPORTS OF SEMIFINISHED COLOR TV SETS IF IT IS FOUND THAT THEY HAVE EXCESSIVELY LARGE SEMIFINISHED SET EXPORT PLANS, THE SOURCES SAID.

"MITI HOPES TO SETTLE THE JAPAN-U.S. TV TRADE NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE THE FORTHCOMING SUMMIT MEETING OF SEVEN WESTERN INDUSTRIAL NATIONS TO BE HELD IN LONDON MAY 7-8, THE SOURCES ADDED." END TEXT.

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Sent Date: 27-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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